

60130-1034
OIMRA0170**REMARKS**

Claims 2-11, 13 and 15 are objected to as being dependant upon a rejected base claim, but the Examiner stated that these claims would be allowable if rewritten in independent form to include the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claims 2 and 15 have previously been amended into independent format. Claim 3-11 and 13 depend from allowable claim 2 and are also allowable. Therefore, claims 2-11, 13 and 15 are allowable

Claims 1, 12, 14 and 21 stand rejected under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by *Leiber, et al.* (United States Patent No. 4,919,444). *Leiber* does not disclose a vehicle suspension system including clutch dampers connectable to a vehicle frame as claimed. *Leiber* teaches a torsion bar divided into two parts 2' and 2'', with both parts 2' and 2'' attached to lever arms 5. A housing 17'' connects inner plates 19 to the part 2'', and a housing 17' connects outer plates 20 to the part 2' (column 5, lines 6-20). The plates 19 and 20 are connected to the torsion bar. The plates 19 and 20, the parts 2' and 2'', and the housings 17' and 17'' of *Leiber* are not connectable to a vehicle frame. In the claimed invention, the clutch dampers are connectable to a vehicle frame, and the bar dampers are part of the stabilizer bar. In *Leiber*, all the plates 19, 20 are connected to the torsion bar, and none of the plates 19, 20 are connectable to a vehicle frame as in the claimed invention. Applicant's claims are not anticipated by *Leiber*, and Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection be withdrawn.

Thus, Claims 1-21 are in condition for allowance. No additional fees are seen to be required. If any additional fees are due, however, the Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 50-1482, in the name of Carlson, Gaskey & Olds, P.C., for any additional fees or credit the account for any overpayment. Therefore, favorable reconsideration and allowance of this application is respectfully requested.

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Respectfully submitted,

CARLSON, GASKEY & OLDS, P.C.

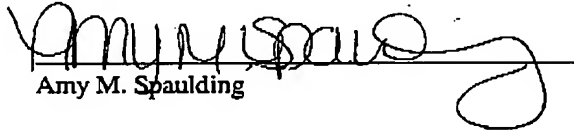


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CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office, 703-872-9306 on April 14, 2004.



Amy M. Spaulding